



HQ Air Force Personnel Center



Air Force Disability Evaluation System

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Overview

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- ☐ Background
- ☐ DES Structure
- ☐ Disability Recommendations
- ☐ Process
- ☐ Statistics
- ☐ Key Concepts

Background

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- Purpose of Disability Evaluation System
 - Maintain a fit and vital force
 - Remove unfit due to physical disability
 - Ensure fair compensation

- Statutory Basis Chapter 61 Title 10 USC
 - Applies to all Armed Forces
 - Applies to all grades, active and reserve
 - DoDD 1332.18 & AFI 36-3212

Background

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- Eligibility For Disability Compensation
 - Unable to perform duties of office, grade, rank or rating due to disease or injury incurred or aggravated while entitled to basic pay

AND

- Disability is permanent
- Not the result of misconduct or AWOL

DES Structure

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- Medical Treatment Facility (MTF)
 - Medical Evaluation Board (MEB)
 - Physical Eval Board Liaison Officer (PEBLO)

- Air Force Personnel Center
 - Medical Standards Branch (DPAMM)
 - Physical Disability Division (DPPD)
 - Disability Operations Branch
 - Informal Physical Evaluation Board (IPEB)
 - Formal Physical Evaluation Board (FPEB)

DES Structure

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- Air Force Personnel Council
 - Air Force Personnel Board (AFPB)

- Military Personnel Flight

Disposition Recommendations

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- Return to duty -- FIT
 - Cannot appeal if FIT
- Discharge without severance pay
 - Unfit & EPTS or misconduct
- Discharge with severance pay
 - Unfit & 20% or less disability
- Permanent Retirement
 - Unfit, condition stable, & 20+ years or greater than a 30% disability

Disposition

Recommendations

AFPC



- Temp Disab Retire List (TDRL)
 - Unfit, condition unstable, & 20+ years or greater than a 30% disability
 - New MEB every 18 months until 5 years
 - TDRL case has same disposition recommendation as other cases
 - Except can also appeal a FIT finding

Disposition

Recommendations

AFPC



- If unfit, member may
 - Concur
 - Non-concur with/without written rebuttal

- All cases finalized by Director, AF Personnel Council or Special Assistant

Process - IPEB

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- Randolph AFB -- 3 Member Board
 - 1 Personnel Officer and 2 Doctors (O5/O6)
 - Reserve Officer for Reserve/Guard Cases

- Documentation Review
 - MEB Results
 - Accession physical
 - Other data
 - **CC Letter**

Process - FPEB

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- Lackland AFB -- 3 Member Board
 - 2 Personnel Officers and 1 Doctor (O5/O6)
 - Reserve Officer for Reserve/Guard Cases

- Full & Fair Hearing IAW Title 10 USC
 - Representation by counsel
 - Appear in person
 - Present evidence
 - Call witnesses

Process - FPEB

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□ Key Points

- JAGs available -- like local ADC
- Member TDY -- 3-day prep time
- Consider IPEB, full medical record, testimony & evidence
- Medical consults available
- Audio & video recorded
- Immediate feedback to member

Process – Personnel Council

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- Dir, AF Personnel Council acts for SECAF

- AF Personnel Board
 - 5 voting members, at least 1 doctor
 - Documentation review
 - Disposition options & administrative discharge
 - Case finalized

Process – BCMR

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- Appeal outside AF channels
- Board is all civilians
- BCMR like Supreme Court
 - Documentation review
 - Governed by AFI 36-2603
 - Use DD Form 149
- Case really finalized

PEB Statistics

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FY	ACTIVE	TDRL	TOTAL
94	4566	980	5546
95	3263	855	4118
96	3464	939	4403
97	3066	979	4045
98	2954	833	3787
99	3479	698	4177
00	3243	521	3764
01	3168	362	3530
02	3811	471	4282

Types of Disabilities FY02

(Oct 01 - Sep 02)

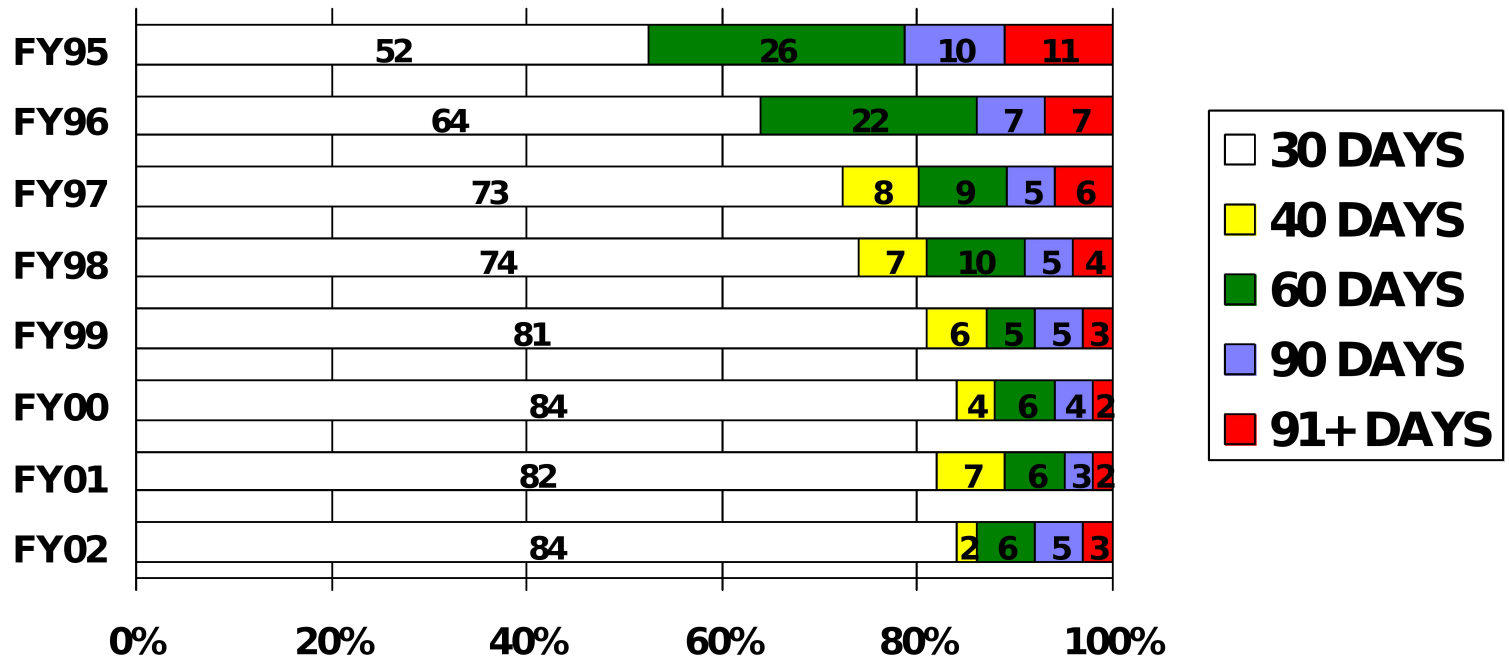
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□ Orthopedic	23%
□ Asthma (all respiratory)	20%
□ Psychological	13%
□ Neurological (including seizures)	10%
□ Heart	7%
□ Diabetes	6%

USAF PEB Timeliness

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Key Concepts

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□ Unsuiting Conditions

- Certain conditions and defects of a developmental nature designated by the SECDEF do not constitute a physical disability and are not ratable in the absence of an underlying causative disorder

Key Concepts

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☐ Examples

- ☐ Adjustment Disorder
- ☐ Personality Disorder
- ☐ Incapacitating Fear of Flying
- ☐ Immunological intolerance
- ☐ Sleepwalking
- ☐ Others (alcoholism, dyslexia, mental retardation)

Key Concepts

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- Presumption of Fitness
 - We compensate members whose career we cut short due to a disability

- Proximate Result
 - Title 10 USC
 - Members on orders of 30 days or less
 - Disability must have been caused by service

Key Concepts

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- USAF versus Veterans Administration
 - Title 10 vs. Title 38
 - Unfit vs. Service-connected
 - Snapshot vs. updates
 - Compensation computation

Key Concepts

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- EPTS
 - Not used after 8 years of service
- Special reviews and Recalls
- Doc & SQ/CC coordination
 - Watch profiles

Key Concepts

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□ Timeline

- Expeditiously remove unfit member
- Average PEB 14 days
- Gone in 20/30 days plus 20/30 PTDY
- MUST sell leave time (up to 60 days)
- See Transition Assistance Office ASAP

Summation

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- ☐ Disability recommendations
- ☐ Process
- ☐ Statistics
- ☐ Key Concepts